



**Dave Heineman**  
Governor

## STATE OF NEBRASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 94848 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4848  
Phone: (402) 471-2244 • gov.heineman@gov.ne.gov

January 18, 2007

Dear Fellow Nebraskan:

It is my pleasure to invite you to be part of the 2007 Governor's Agriculture Conference scheduled for February 28 and March 1 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney, Nebraska. For the past several years, this Conference has been an important event for our agricultural community, providing both an opportunity to address current industry trends and a glimpse of what may come in the months and years ahead.

The theme of this year's Conference is "Agriculture – Nebraska's Rural Development Opportunity." The Conference will begin on Wednesday, February 28 at 6:00 p.m., with the "Celebrate Nebraska Agriculture" Reception. In addition to featuring a wide variety of Nebraska food products, the evening will feature comedic speaker Jay Hendren. Registration for the evening's activities will begin at 5:30 p.m. in Loper Hall.

Conference activities will resume Thursday, March 1, with a continental breakfast beginning at 7:30 a.m. with the opening session starting at 9:00 a.m. We have an impressive line-up of speakers, including U.S. Department of Agriculture Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, Mark Keenum, who will be this year's keynote speaker. Other speakers include Cargill AgHorizons President, Dan Dye; senior staff writer for Feedstuffs newspaper, Sally Schuff; The Farm Foundation President, Walt Armbruster; University of Nebraska-Lincoln beef feedlot specialist, Galen Erickson; as well as representatives from the Renewable Fuels Association, and the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 7 Office. Conference activities are scheduled to conclude by 3:00 p.m.

I encourage you to consider attending this important event. Your participation in this year's Conference can be confirmed by returning the enclosed card with your registration fee by Monday, February 12. Please contact the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at (402) 471-6856 or toll free at 800-831-0550 if you have any questions. Lodging is available by calling the Holiday Inn at (308) 237-5976 or toll free at 800-248-4460; be sure to ask for the Governor's Agriculture Conference rate of \$65. For more detailed and up-to-date information about the conference speakers, please visit the web site at [www.agr.ne.gov](http://www.agr.ne.gov).

As Governor of one of the nation's leading agriculture states, I look forward to hosting this annual event. Agriculture continues to be the backbone of our state, and it's important our producers are equipped with the knowledge to tackle new challenges and benefit from expanding opportunities. This Conference provides a forum for discussion on the issues facing this industry, and I hope to see you in Kearney as we continue working to ensure agriculture remains a vibrant industry in our state.

Sincerely,

Dave Heineman  
Governor

Enclosure